

For Immediate Release December 8, 2004

## Public Comment Period Extended on Draft Environmental Assessment Document for Monument Valley, Arizona, Project Site

(Grand Junction, CO)—The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management has extended the public comment period for the draft *Environmental Assessment of Ground Water Compliance at the Monument Valley, Arizona, Uranium Mill Tailings Site* at the request of the Navajo Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Program. The public comment period has been extended by two weeks to allow time to distribute additional copies of the document requested by interested parties. Comments on the draft *Environmental Assessment* will now be accepted until December 30, 2004.

The draft *Environmental Assessment* provides information concerning the potential effects of the proposed ground water compliance strategies for the Monument Valley site, a former uranium ore processing facility located on the Navajo Reservation in northeastern Arizona, about 15 miles south of Mexican Hat, Utah, and about 13 miles east of the Monument Valley tribal park.

Reference copies of the draft *Environmental Assessment* are available in the Flagstaff Coconino Public Library, Burton Barr Central Library (Phoenix), Tuba City Public Library, Navajo Nation Library System, Cortez Public Library, Dine' College Library, Dine' College Library Shiprock Branch, the University of New Mexico-Gallup Library, Mexican Hat Elementary School Library, Monument Valley High School, Shiprock Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AML) Program Office, Tuba City AML Program Office, Kayenta Chapter House, Oljato Chapter House, and Dennehotso Chapter House. A copy is also available in the DOE Public Reading Room in Grand Junction, Colorado, and on the Navajo UMTRA website at <a href="http://www.navajoaml.osmre.gov/">http://www.navajoaml.osmre.gov/</a>. Copies may be requested by contacting DOE toll free at 1–800–399–5618, or the Navajo Nation AML/UMTRA office at 1–800–871–6982.

Draft Monument Valley EA Comment Period December 8, 2004 Page 2

Public comments on the draft *Environmental Assessment* should be forwarded to the address below no later than December 30, 2004:

Richard Bush
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 B 3/4 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Email: MonValComments@gjo.doe.gov Telephone: 1–800–399–5618

-30 -

## **News Contacts:**

Art Kleinrath	DOE Legacy Management Monument Valley Site Lead	970-248-6037
Audrey Berry	DOE Legacy Management Stakeholder Relations	970–248–7727
Wendee Ryan	S.M. Stoller Public Affairs Manager	970-248-6765